Abstract

A piezoelectric actuator, e.g. for actuating a mechanical component, is proposed, which has a multilayered structure of piezoelectric layers (2) with electrodes (3, 4) disposed between them. With a contacting (5, 6) of the electrodes (3, 4) on alternating sides, there is a neutral phase (7) without an electrode layer, in which fracture formation can occur, which can be prevented by means of a shape of the multilayered structure which permits an increased mechanical stress to be exerted in the vicinity of the neutral phases (7) when the piezoelectric actuator (1) is clamped in place perpendicular to the layer structure.

(Fig. 4)